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PROD - 2

Approved For Release 2002-01-02 : CIA-RDP61-00391R000200020010-6

2 June 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Re-evaluation of Urban Area Work, Based Upon Availability
of New Materials

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1. In a discussion this date with [REDACTED] of the Photo Intelligence Division and [REDACTED] of the Cartography Division, the subject of urban-area work was explored in the light of the availability of new materials, which somewhat changes the aspect of the problem as we examined it in 1952-53. I brought [REDACTED] up to date on what had been done in the past toward getting an urban-area research program instituted which would be responsive to the needs of DD/P as well as to the requirements of NIS Supplement IV.

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2. There is coverage for approximately fifty cities of 100,000 and over population, which could become the basis for fairly accurate town plans produced at a scale to meet planning and operational requirements. The principal questions are (a) who needs them, (b) why, and (c) how much effort should be put into the utilization of available data in order to produce them. I agreed that I would explore this question in the community. [REDACTED] will explore the possibility of stepping up current D/GC efforts in the town plan program and to study other technical matters relative to speeding up production processes.

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3. [REDACTED] stated that there are numerous requests for detailed data on cities and towns coming from all parts of the Agency. There is, however, no standardized program establishing standard format, scale, and other essential elements of a town plan which could be agreed upon to meet numerous and varied intelligence community requirements. Whether these stated needs for town plans represent, in fact, critical requirements which warrant the expenditure of man-hours on some sort of town plan program is a matter to be determined.

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cc: AD/RR

ORR:Ch/G:JAB: [REDACTED] (2 June 1958)

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